

REMARKS

Pending Claims 1-43 are cancelled without prejudice to later prosecution in a continuing (continuation, division or CIP) application. New Claims 44-82 are added.

The pending Office Action raises a single issue, namely a requirement to elect a single disclosed species for prosecution in this application.

Turning to Detailed Action Section 1, Examiner sets forth 11 species (Species I-XI). However, it is suggested that listed Figures 12-33 constitute less than 11 species and that several species listed in the Detailed Action be consolidated as follows.

(1) Consolidate Species III into Species II (to form Consolidated Species II) because Figures 14-19 disclose a single handle embodiment (species), whose light transmitting member 11F of Figure 14 has its end portions shown enlarged in Figures 15 and 16 and shown mounted as detailed in Figures 17-19.

(2) Consolidate Species V and VI into Species IV (to form Consolidated Species IV) because Figures 20, 20A, 21 and 25 all disclose a single handle embodiment, with opposite ends in Figures 20 and 21 end parts of the Figure 20 end detailed in Figures 20 and 25.

(3) Please note that any of the disclosed handle embodiments can be used in the Figures 22-24, 26 and 27 bathing/toilet environments and can use the Figures 28 and 29 textured gripping surface (listed in the Detailed Action as Species VII and VIII) and the Figures 31 and 32A supply (designated Species X) is usable with any of the disclosed embodiments.

Added independent Claims 44 and 60 are closely based on parent application allowed independent Claim 15 (independent issued parent patent Claim 11) and are believed allowable substantially for the reasons stated in the parent application with respect to such independent Claim 11.

The remaining added claims depend from one or the other of mentioned added independent Claims 44 and 60.

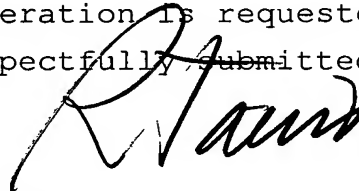
Further, added independent Claims 44 and 60 are each believed generic to all of the disclosed handle embodiments, particularly those stated above.

Claims dependent from added independent Claims 44 and 60 set forth details of the several handle embodiments and of structure usable therewith as set forth in the Figures listed in the pending Detailed Action Species VII, VIII and X.

Aside from that, Applicants provisionally elects Species II, particularly Consolidated Species II, namely the handle embodiment disclosed in Figures 14-19. At least Claims 44, 46, 48, 49, 52, 53, 54, 58, 60, 61, 62, 63, 67, 72, 73, 76, 77, 79 and 80 are believed to read thereon. However, independent Claims 44 and 60 are submitted to be allowable generic claims from which the remaining claims depend, and so it is submitted that all of the added claims should be prosecutable in this application.

Further and favorable consideration is requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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